

*Taking note* of the letter dated 13 July 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,<sup>24</sup>

*Responding* to the request of the Government of Lebanon,

1. *Decides* to extend the present mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon for a further interim period of six months, that is, until 31 January 1989;

2. *Reiterates* its strong support for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries;

3. *Re-emphasizes* the terms of reference and general guidelines of the Force as stated in the report of the Secretary-General of 19 March 1978,<sup>25</sup> approved by resolution 426 (1978), and calls upon all parties concerned to co-operate fully with the Force for the full implementation of its mandate;

4. *Reiterates* that the Force should fully implement its mandate as defined in resolutions 425 (1978), 426 (1978) and all other relevant resolutions;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue consultations with the Government of Lebanon and other parties directly concerned on the implementation of the present resolution and to report to the Security Council thereon.

*Adopted unanimously at the 2822nd meeting.*

**Resolution 618 (1988)**  
of 29 July 1988

*The Security Council,*

*Taking note* of paragraph 23 of the Secretary-General's report on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon<sup>26</sup> concerning the abduction of Lieutenant-Colonel William Richard Higgins, a military observer of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization serving with the Force,

*Recalling* the Secretary-General's special report on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon,<sup>27</sup>

*Recalling also* its resolution 579 (1985) of 18 December 1985, which, *inter alia*, condemned unequivocally all acts of hostage-taking and abduction and called for the immediate release of all hostages and abducted persons wherever and by whomever they are being held,

1. *Condemns* the abduction of Lieutenant-Colonel Higgins;

2. *Demands* his immediate release;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to use their influence in any way possible to promote the implementation of the present resolution.

*Adopted unanimously at the 2822nd meeting.*

**Decision**

At its 2831st meeting, on 30 November 1988, the Council proceeded with the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East: report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (S/20276)".<sup>28</sup>

**Resolution 624 (1988)**  
of 30 November 1988

*The Security Council,*

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force,<sup>27</sup>

*Decides:*

(a) To call upon the parties concerned to implement immediately Security Council resolution 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973;

(b) To renew the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force for another period of six months, that is, until 31 May 1989;

(c) To request the Secretary-General to submit, at the end of this period, a report on the developments in the situation and the measures taken to implement resolution 338 (1973).

*Adopted unanimously at the 2831st meeting.*

**Decisions**

At the same meeting, following the adoption of resolution 624 (1988), the President made the following statement:<sup>28</sup>

"In connection with the resolution just adopted on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, I have been authorized to make the following complementary statement on behalf of the Security Council:

"As is known, the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force<sup>27</sup> states, in paragraph 24: "Despite the present quiet in the Israel-Syria sector, the situation in the Middle East as a whole continues to be potentially dangerous and is likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached." That statement of the Secretary-General reflects the view of the Security Council."

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, document S/20014.

<sup>25</sup> *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1988*, document S/19617.

<sup>26</sup> See *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1988*.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*, document S/20276.

<sup>28</sup> S/20306.